

Weekly Views

Be informed about the Indiana Department of Correction

"The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience." ~ Eleanor Roosevelt

Friday, June 5, 2009

At Miami's Community Advisory Board meeting, Branchville Correctional Facility Superintendent Gil Peters discussed the Purposeful Incarceration initiative, which involves working with courts to sentence offenders directly into a therapeutic community. Also, Westville's Therapeutic Community received its first sentencing referral from a Porter County judge this week. Superintendent Wilson and staff have been meeting with judges and prosecutors to introduce the Purposeful Incarceration initiative.

In May, Miami Correctional held a record 8 Straight Talk programs, reaching more than 630 students. The program utilizes Level 1 and Level 2 offenders to talk to youth about prison, peer pressure, parental respect, and drug abuse.

Rockville Correctional Facility staff and family members recently participated in the Parke County Relay for Life. Fundraising efforts included a book sale and providing a gift basket for the relay's silent auction.

2 students from Camp Summit participated in formal GED Graduation Ceremonies with the Michigan City Area Schools.

Correctional Industrial Facility held a pizza fundraiser this week. The sale generated approximately \$1,463, with \$200 going to the Wee Ones Nursery at the Women's Prison and \$300 going to the Salvation Army in Muncie, IN.

Henryville Correctional Facility recently hosted the Unchained Gang, a Christian group of ministering motorcycle riders.

Pendleton Juvenile is holding a PNJCF Golf Academy with PGA Professional Jim Phillips. He will be coming one day a week for this 8-week program starting June 10. 16 offenders will be able to participate in the program.

New Castle Correctional Facility staff have raised \$3,600 and are participating in the Special Olympics Torch Run.

Miami's PLUS Unit hosted its 3rd mini Relay for Life, and 400 offenders raised \$1,400 for the American Cancer Society.

New Castle staff played in the Muncie Mission's golf tournament to raise money for the Mission's re-entry programs.

Offenders from Indiana State Prison's Minimum Security Unit assisted with placing a state historical marker in front of the house where Pulitzer Prize winner Edwin Way Teale lived. Teales was a writer, photographer, and naturalist.

15 players from the Athletes in Action sports ministry played basketball with Pendleton Correctional's offender team.

This week, the Correctional Industrial Facility held its "Fifth Sundays Chaplain's Choice" and welcomed Dave Brewer, a printing trades teacher at Plainfield Correctional Facility. Dave held a special workshop and worship.

Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility will hold its first Drum Circle for both staff and residents. Drum Circles are used as a creative way to release and express emotions positively and promote unity.

Ball State University recently held a graduation at the Indiana State Prison. 21 offenders received Bachelor's degrees, 33 received Associate's degrees, and 29 students made the Dean's List.

28 bicycles were reconditioned in Pendleton Correctional Facility's Shifting Gears operation, and 12 wheelchairs were restored in the Wheels for the World program during May. Bikes were recently donated to the Muncie Freewill Baptist Church Vacation Bible School Program, organizations that provide services to veterans, and a domestic violence shelter.

Correctional Industrial Facility recently completed its first relationship enhancement workshop. All CIF offenders requesting to be married are required to complete this course. 8 couples participated in the final session.

Staff of the Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility participated in a kickball game with residents of the facility, and the game was officiated by recreation department clerks.

Mark Newkirk from the Indiana State Prison successfully completed the year-long Leadership LaPorte County program.

A Pendleton Correctional work crew moved 60 rooms of furniture at the Indiana Deaf School for a remodeling project.

The NW Regional Community Advisory Board serving Westville Correctional Facility, Indiana State Prison, and Camp Summit Boot Camp recently met on the beach of Lake Michigan's Washington Park.

From the Office of Edwin G. Buss, Commissioner